

IN THE CLAIMS:

The status of each claim that has been introduced in the above-referenced application is identified in the ensuing listing of the claims. This listing of the claims replaces all previously submitted claims listings.

1. (Currently amended) An electrode for use in ~~noninvasively measuring hemato-crit~~obtaining a non-invasive impedance measurement of tissue constituents from a subject, comprising:
~~a common contact region carrying at least two laterally discrete electrical contacts~~an electrically insulative substrate; and
at least two discrete, linear, elongate conductive elements carried by the electrically insulative substrate with at least regions of adjacent conductive elements that are not carried by the electrically insulative substrate being spaced apart from one another a distance that facilitates the non-invasive impedance measurement of tissue constituents, each elongate conductive element including a protruding from the common contact region, each elongate element carrying an electrode which is coextensive with a corresponding one of the at least two electrical contacts.

2. (Currently amended) The electrode of claim 1, wherein a pair of elongate conductive elements of the at least two elongate conductive elements extends ~~from the common contact region~~ in substantially a common direction.

3. (Currently amended) The electrode of claim 2, wherein the elongate conductive elements of the pair are oriented substantially parallel to one another.

4. (Currently amended) The electrode of claim 3, wherein the elongate conductive elements of the pair have substantially the same ~~width~~widths.

5. (Currently amended) The electrode of claim 4, wherein the elongate conductive elements of the pair are spaced apart from one another by a distance which is substantially the same as the width of each elongate element.

6. (Currently amended) The electrode of claim 5, wherein the ~~common contact region~~ electrically insulative substrate has a width equal to about four times the width of each elongate element.

7. (Currently amended) The electrode of claim 6, wherein a gap between the elongate elements of the pair is positioned substantially centrally relative to the width of the ~~common contact region~~ electrically insulative substrate.

8-10 (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) The electrode of claim 1, wherein ~~the common~~ the contact region includes at least one aperture formed therethrough.

12. (Original) The electrode of claim 11, wherein the at least one aperture is elongate.

13. (Currently amended) The electrode of claim 1, wherein each electrical contact is configured to include oppositely facing electrically conductive surfaces ~~extends over portions of both major surfaces of the common contact region~~.

14. (Previously presented) A strip of electrodes, comprising two offset rows of at least partially overlapping electrode pairs, each electrode pair including:
a common contact region; and
a pair of spaced apart elongate elements extending from the common contact region and oriented substantially parallel to one another,

common contact regions of adjacent electrode pairs in the same row being positioned adjacent to one another and forming an edge of the strip, elongate elements of electrode pairs in the same row being aligned with one another and oriented substantially parallel to each other, adjacent elongate elements of each row being spaced apart by an elongate element of an electrode pair of the other row.

15. (Original) The strip of claim 14, wherein all of the elongate elements of the electrode pairs have substantially the same widths and are spaced apart from one another by a distance which is substantially equal to a width of each elongate element.

16. (Original) The strip of claim 14, comprising:
a substantially confluent dielectric layer;
a patterned conductive layer on the substantially confluent dielectric layer; and
a conductive coating layer over the patterned conductive layer only at locations of the strip that include the elongate elements.

17. (Previously presented) The strip of claim 16, wherein the patterned conductive layer forms a pair of electrical contacts at the common contact region of each electrode pair and an electrode that communicates with a corresponding electrical contact and forms a part of each elongate element.

18. (Previously presented) The strip of claim 16, wherein the substantially confluent dielectric layer includes at least one row of apertures formed through the common contact regions of each row of electrode pairs.

19. (Previously presented) The strip of claim 18, wherein the substantially confluent dielectric layer includes two rows of apertures formed through the common contact regions of each row of electrode pairs.

20. (Previously presented) The strip of claim 19, wherein the common contact region of each electrode pair is configured to be folded in half such that two apertures formed therethrough are aligned with one another and a pair of electrical contacts thereon are exposed to both major surfaces of the electrode pair.

21-52 (Canceled)

53. (New) An electrode strip, comprising:
a pair of electrodes; and
at least another electrode interleaved between electrodes of the pair and configured to be removed from between the pair of electrodes prior to use of the electrodes and the at least another electrode.

54. (New) The electrode strip of claim 53, wherein the pair of electrodes are physically secured to one other by way of an electrically non-conductive element.

55. (New) The electrode pair of claim 53, wherein the pair of electrodes extend substantially parallel to one another.

56. (New) The electrode pair of claim 53, wherein the electrodes of the pair are spaced apart from one another by a distance that facilitates a non-invasive impedance measurement of tissue constituents.

57. (New) The electrode pair of claim 53, wherein a contact region of each electrode is configured to be folded in half such that a pair of electrical contacts are exposed to both major surfaces of the electrode.